

**TOWN OF LA CONNER
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
February 19, 2019**

The Planning Commission meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Present were Commissioners Bruce Bradburn, Marna Hanneman, Carol Hedlin, Liz Theaker, and Planning Director Marianne Manville-Ailles. Commissioner Talman was absent.

Also present were Jay Bowen, Marlene Brenton, J. Ward Phillips and Peter Whited.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Marlene Brenton presented a picture of a hummingbird phoenix sculpture designed by Peter Whited and Jay Bowen. This is a fundraiser for the La Conner After School Program- they will sell feathers inscribed with the donors names that will go on the front of the sculpture. It will be 10 feet tall and the feathers will range from \$500 to \$10,000. Materials used will be primarily stainless steel for the body, with the feathers made out of various materials such as copper and brass. They are hoping to display it in Gilkey Square. Since it will be vertically oriented, it won't take up much space. It would be a community commissioned sculpture.

Marianne said she would put them in touch with the Arts Commission, since they will be taking over sculpture review going forward.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Theaker moved to approve the January 15, 2019 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Bradburn. Motion carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- *Public Hearing 18-45 Ward Phillips Historic Design Review--Sculpture*

Public Hearing opened at 6:15 p.m.

Marianne said that the proposed sculpture installation meets the Historic District requirements, and recommended that the Planning Commission approve the historic design review subject to the conditions stated in the Planner's Report.

Peter Whited asked how he would apply for a building permit for the sculpture. Marianne said that it will be a standard building permit process- La Conner will review it first, and Skagit County will do the inspection and approval. The foundation will be what is looked at.

Public Hearing closed at 6:22 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hanneman to approve the Ward Phillips Sculpture installation Historic Design Review provided the applicant:

- 1. Obtain a building permit prior to installation of the piece.**
- 2. Installation will comply with the Town of La Conner provisions for clear visibility triangle in La Conner Municipal Code (LCMC) 15.75.130.**
- 3. If any of the work will be completed from the public right of way then a right of way permit will be required.**
- 4. Installation will be coordinated with the Public Works Director.**

Second by Commissioner Theaker. Motion carried 4-0.

Whited hopes to have the sculpture installed by April 1st. There will be landscaping around the base and the snow geese will be high enough off the ground so as to not pose a hazard for small children.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Planning Commission will be transferring sculpture installation review to the Arts Commission. Marianne has already discussed this with the Mayor and Town Administrator, as well as the Arts Commission Chair. The LCMC states that installations must be reviewed by a body, but does not specify which one. The Planning Commission will be making changes to the code regarding historic district parking regulations this year, so they will make this change at that time as well.

Marianne will discuss the details with the Arts Commission soon and all further sculpture reviews and associated hearings will be done by them. The Arts Commission already vets sculptures for the art walk and various exhibits, so doing the Historic Design Review should be a natural fit for them. Council will then approve the sculptures based on the Arts Commission's recommendation.

For the joint meeting with Council, the Commission will have a list for the 2019 Work program. There are a lot more items than time this year, so that meeting will narrow it down to what has to be done, and anything else that it's possible to do this year and Council wants done. The other items will get revisited in future years as time permits.

CLOSING COMMENTS:

The Comprehensive Plan update received one comment from the Dept. of Health, saying that it didn't address groundwater management. The Town does not deal with groundwater, so this is irrelevant, and Marianne added a sentence to that effect to the Comp Plan.

The March 19th Planning Commission may be cancelled due to lack of business to go over. The Commission may try to hold the joint meeting with Council instead.

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With no further business Commissioner Hanneman moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Bradburn. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair

Date